

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. 1. A method of selecting from a plurality of communication arrangements comprising:
 - 2 inputting a first party's ability to communicate with a second party;
 - 3 evaluating a communication arrangement based on said first party's ability to
 - 4 communicate;
 - 5 repeating said evaluating for a different communication arrangement if said first party's
 - 6 ability does not match a communication arrangement previously evaluated; and
 - 7 implementing a communication arrangement when said first party's ability matches a
 - 8 communication arrangement.
2. 2. The method in claim 1, wherein said communication arrangements comprise purchase order and billing communications between a purchasing corporation and a supplier.
- 1 3. 3. The method in claim 2, wherein said first party comprises said supplier and said second
- 2 party comprises said purchasing corporation.
- 1 4. 4. The method in claim 1, wherein said evaluating comprises inputting said first party's
- 2 ability into a decision tree.

1 5. The method in claim 4, wherein said decision tree orders communication arrangements
2 that are evaluated by their cost effectiveness to the second party.

1 6. The method in claim 1, further comprising before said implementing, performing a cost-
2 benefit analysis with respect to a communication arrangement matching said first parties ability.

1 7. The method in claim 6, wherein said cost-benefit analysis compares the cost of
2 establishing a matching communication arrangement to the cost of a next communication
3 arrangement.

4 8. A method of selecting from a plurality of communication arrangements comprising:
5 inputting a first party's ability to communicate with a second party;
6 evaluating a communication arrangement based on said first party's ability to
7 communicate;
8 repeating said evaluating for a different communication arrangement if said first parties
9 ability does not match a communication arrangement previously evaluated;
10 performing a cost-benefit analysis with respect to a communication arrangement
11 matching said first parties ability; and
12 implementing a communication arrangement when said first party's ability matches a
13 communication arrangement and said cost-benefit shows said communication arrangement is
14 justified.

1 9. The method in claim 8, wherein said communication arrangements comprises purchase
2 order and billing communications between a purchasing corporation and a supplier.

1 10. The method in claim 9, wherein said first party comprises said supplier and said second
2 party comprises said purchasing corporation.

1 11. The method in claim 8, wherein said evaluating comprises inputting said first party's
2 ability into a decision tree.

1 12. The method in claim 11, wherein said decision tree orders communication arrangements
2 that are evaluated by their cost effectiveness to the second party.

1 13. The method in claim 8, wherein said cost-benefit analysis compares the cost of
2 establishing a matching communication arrangement to the cost of a next communication
3 arrangement.

1 14. A program storage device readable by machine tangibly embodying a program of
2 instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for selecting from a plurality of
3 communication arrangements, said method comprising:
4 inputting a first party's ability to communicate with a second party;

5 evaluating a communication arrangement based on said first party's ability to
6 communicate;
7 repeating said evaluating for a different communication arrangement if said first party's
8 ability does not match a communication arrangement previously evaluated; and
9 implementing a communication arrangement when said first party's ability matches a
10 communication arrangement.

1 15. The program storage device in claim 14, wherein said communication arrangements
2 comprise purchase order and billing communications between a purchasing corporation and a
3 supplier.

1 16. The program storage device in claim 15, wherein said first party comprises said supplier
2 and said second party comprises said purchasing corporation.

1 17. The program storage device in claim 14, wherein said evaluating comprises inputting said
2 first party's ability into a decision tree.

1 18. The program storage device in claim 17, wherein said decision tree orders communication
2 arrangements that are evaluated by their cost effectiveness to the second party.

1 19. The program storage device in claim 14, further comprising before said implementing,
2 performing a cost- benefit analysis with respect to a communication arrangement matching said
3 first parties ability.

1 20. The program storage device in claim 19, wherein said cost-benefit analysis compares the
2 cost of establishing a matching communication arrangement to the cost of a next communication
3 arrangement.

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